

USSN 09/950 012

IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) A metal halide gas generator disposed external of a coating retort, comprising a base, a housing having a metallic charge for reaction with a halide gas to produce a metal halide gas, said housing having a region disposed on said base, an air-tight seal comprising a polymeric material disposed between said region and said base, said region having a fluid passage for cooling said region, and a heating device to heat the metallic ~~material~~ charge to a reaction temperature.

2. (Original) The generator of claim 1 wherein said region comprises a laterally extending flange region at an end of said housing.

3. (Original) The generator of claim 1 wherein said seal comprises an O-ring seal.

A2 4. (Original) The generator of claim 1 wherein said seal comprises an acid resistant polymeric material.

5. (Original) The generator of claim 1 including an inlet fitting on said base and outlet fitting on said housing, said inlet fitting and outlet fitting comprising zero clearance fittings.

6. (Currently Amended) The generator of claim ~~1~~ 2 including a perforated gas distribution plate on which said metallic ~~material~~ charge is disposed, said plate being disposed in said housing downstream of said flange region in the direction of flow of said halide gas in said generator.

7-11. (Cancelled)

12. (New) The generator of claim 1 wherein the metallic charge includes at least one of Si and a reactive metal selected from the group consisting of Hf, Zr, Y, Ce, La, and Mg.

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